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From Monday December 17. to Thursday December 20. 1677.

Madrid, Decemb. 2.

THE King has nominated Prince Vincenzo de Gonsague, Great Master of the Household to the Empress Dowager, to be Viceroy and Captain General of Sicily, and accordingly that Prince is on his way hither from Vienna; and the Sieur Franque, Native of Mons in Flanders, is made General of the Cavalry, in the place of Don Diego Bracamonte. Here is lately arrived an Envoy from Portugal, he remains as yet incognito, though he hath been to visit the chief Ministers. On Sunday last arrived here from Flanders the Marquis de Reggi Brother to the Cardinal of that name; it is said he was sent by the Duke de Villa Hermosa, Governor of those Provinces, to give the King an account of the present posture of Affairs there. Don Hieronimo de Quinones, late Maître de Camp General in Flanders, is made Governor of Malaga. We are told that orders have been sent to our Ambassador at Rome, to endeavor to compose the matters in difference between him and that Court on account of the Privileges belonging to him as his Ambassador.

Vienna, Decemb. 12. This Court is in great joy for the assurance they have that the Empress is with Child. The Marriage between the Duke of Lorraine and the Queen Dowager of Poland, will be celebrated at New-Bads about the latter end of the next month. The Rebels in Hungary increase daily in number; the last account we had of their motions was, that they had passed the Tysse near Nagykaló, and took their march towards Nagybania.

Copenhagen, Decemb. 11. Though the Suedes are at present quiet in Schonen, yet they are preparing for some great action, in order to the undertaking whereof they expect a Frost which should it so far favor them as to freeze the Sound, it is thought they would make us a visit on this side. The last account we had from Rugen was, that our Troops having wearied themselves in the Siege of the Febricans, without making any great advance therein, had quitted the same till the season shall be more favourable, and had put themselves into Winter-quarters in the said Isle. The King at the request of the Dutch Minister, has accorded him two Frigates, the Neptune, and the Falcon, to convoy for Holland above 100 Sail of Dutch Merchantmen, who are now in the Sound ready to sail.

Stralsund, Decemb. 13. We are told for a certainty that the Suedes Army in Livonia is marching, or ready so to do, so that we hope to see suddenly some considerable change in the affairs of these parts. The Sieur Gustave Carelsan, Natural Son to the late King of Sweden, is here in quality of Major General. There is a design to attack the Danes in Rugen this winter, so soon as the Frost will give us a passage over the Ice, and, we are told, that this Town has offered 2000 men, to be drawn out of the Burghers, to be employed in that Expedition. The constancy and resolution of the Stettinners, cannot be sufficiently extolled; it would extremely move even the most void of tenderness to hear the relation those come from thence make of the Ruines and

Desolations there, and the hardships the Inhabitants have so cheerfully undergone.

From the Elector of Brandenburgs Camp before Stetin, Decemb. 17. The Besieged having from a Post they held near the Holy Ghost Gate very much incommoded us, his Electoral Highness resolved to cause the same to be attacked, the Mines to that end having been prepared, and the necessary orders given, they were executed yesterday about two in the afternoon, and with that success, that we made our selves Masters of the said Post, the Besieged that were there being together with the Ensign that commanded them, killed, except 12 who were taken prisoners, and 4 who escaped in the Town; we likewise took there two pieces of iron Cannon, shooting each 6 lb. The prisoners inform us, that Colonel Isensee, an eminent Officer, and greatly esteemed by the Besieged, is killed.

Hamburg, Decemb. 21. Our Letters from Pomerania advise, that if the Frost had continued some days longer Count Coningsmarke would have passed over to Rugen, and made an attempt upon the Danes, who finding they could do no good upon the Febricans, were retired from before it, and were quartered at large in the several Villages in that Isle. The Suedes talk much of the march of their Army in Livonia, of which we cannot yet hear with any certainty. Notwithstanding the brave and resolute defence of the Besieged in Stetin, it is thought they are upon their last legs, they having lost a great many men in the several Attacks that have been made, and not received any Succors; on the other side the Besiegers advance still though very slowly, and it is reckoned the place cannot hold out above a month longer. The Elector of Brandenburg on his part is resolved not to raise the Siege till he be Master of the place.

Strasbourg, Decemb. 17. The Suisse Cantons have received a Letter from the Most Christian King, wherein he assures them, that he will not employ his Arms to the prejudice of the Forest Cities, which are under the protection of the said Cantons. We are not without our apprehensions of the French.

Frankfort, Decemb. 19. An ill accident happened the other day to the Duke of Lorraine at Philipsburg; for as he was passing over the Bridge on horseback, it broke, and he fell into the Ditch, by which fall he very much bruised himself, and particularly very sorely hurt his leg, which will detain him there 10 or 14 days. The Magistrates of Strasbourg, though they live in all outward appearances of friendship and good correspondence with the French, yet remembering how often they have acted in favor of the Imperialists in prejudice of their Neutrality, they extremely apprehend they will make use of the first opportunity to take their revenge.

Metz, Decemb. 20. General Caprara is retired with the Troops with which he was posted on the Moselle to Dunk-Ponts, which place he is fortifying with all diligence possible. At Treves they are likewise working on their Fortifications. The 13th instant a Body of French Troops under the command of the Marquis de Rannas, appeared before Sarbrucke, and with

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